Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries through the centrally sponsored scheme "Strengthening infrastructure for quality and clean milk production" is also training and strengthening the infrastructure to create mass awareness about importance of clean milk production.

Purchasing and marketing of organic products

†19. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for purchasing and marketing of organic farm products to encourage organic farming is under Government's consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) There is no proposal under Government's consideration for purchasing and marketing of organic farm products as the Government is already promoting organic farming and the demand for organic produce is growing substantially.

Agriculture research products

†20. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work is being carried out on various research projects in agricultural research institutes and in other research institutes of public sector in the country;

(b) if so, foodgrain-wise number of these projects;

(c) by when these projects are likely to be completed indicating the time since when the same were started; and

(d) the details of the average annual expenditure made on these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Seven Centrally Sponsored All India Coordinated Research Projects, one each in Wheat and Barley, Rice, Sorghum, Maize, Pearl Millet, Small Millet and four in Pulses (Chickpea, Pigeon Pea, MULLARP, and Arid Legumes) are currently in operation. In addition 19 projects on cereals and pulses and three other projects on value chain enrichment and popularization of potential foodgrains are being funded under NAIP which are in operation in different State Agricultural Universities and other public Research Institutes.

(c) Project-wise date of start of All India Coordinated Research Projects on foodgrains is as follows:-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl.No.	Foodgrains	Date of Start	Likely date of completion
1.	Wheat and Barley (AICRP, Karnal)	1965	continued
2.	Rice (AICRP, Hyderabad)	1965	continued
3.	Sorghum (AICRP, Hyderabad)	1969	continued
4.	Maize (AICRP, Delhi)	1957	continued
5.	Pearl Millet (AICRP, Mandor)	1986	continued
6.	Small Millet (AICRP, Mangalore)	1986	continued
7.	Pulses (AICRP)	1966/1993	continued

The NAIP projects started in the year 2006-07. The All India Coordinated Projects are operational for the period upto XIth Plan and NAIP Projects are likely to be completed in 2012.

(d) The annual expenditure based on last three years average on these projects is as follows:-

All India Coordinated Research Projects Wheat and Barley, Rs.556.25 lakh, All India Coordinated Research Projects Rice, Rs.636.84 lakh, All India Coordinated Research Projects Sorghum, Rs.287.36 lakh, All India Coordinated Research Projects Maize, Rs.453.51 lakh, All India Coordinated Research Projects Pearl Millet, Rs.283.02 lakh, All India Coordinated Research Projects Small Millet, Rs.376.69 lakh, All India Coordinated Research Projects (Pulses) [Chickpea, MULLARP, Pigeon Pea, and Arid Legumes], Rs. 1083.00 lakh.

The annual budget (2008-09) for the Projects under NAIP is Rs.1895.6 lakhs

Price hike of agricultural instruments

†21. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of agricultural instruments have increased during the last one year;

(b) if so, the names of the implements that have become costlier; and

(c) the details of steps undertaken by Government to reduce the prices of agricultural instruments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Data on price rise of individual agricultural implements is not available, due to diversity of manufacturers as also the very wide variety of types and sizes of agricultural implements. The prices are governed by market forces and vary from State to State and area to area within the States.

(c) The Government has taken measures such as waiving of Excise duty on all agricultural implements and provision of subsidy to farmers for the purchase of different agricultural equipments under various Government schemes/programmes.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.